PROPERTY OF
COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
IN THE MISSION FIELD
156 FIFTH AVE., - NEW YORK

WEI-HSIEN,

Shantung, China

SHANTUNG PROVINCE

Area, 60,000 Square Miles
Population, 35,000,000 Contains 108 Walled Cities
Climate Temperate; Soil Fertile

The nine Presbyterian Stations in the Province are shown by a small P, and the four English Baptist Missions by a small B.

LET US SEE TO IT THAT ONE
MISSION STATION AT LEAST IS

ADEQUATELY EQUIPPED
FULLY MANNED
LIBERALLY SUPPORTED

AND LET THAT STATION BE

WEI-HSIEN

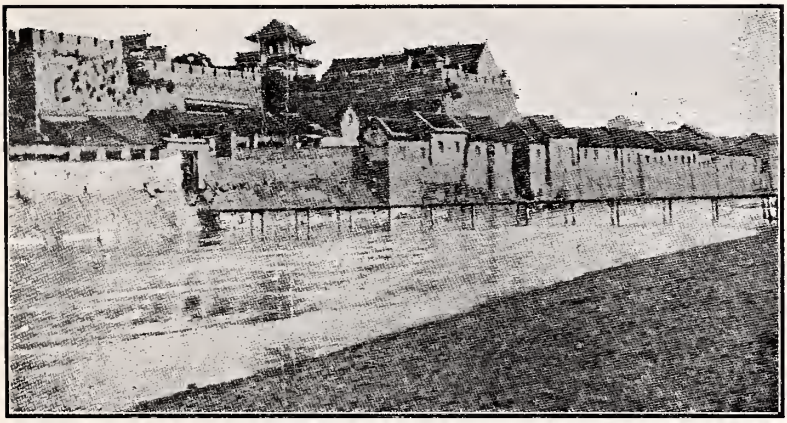
WEI-HSIEN

(Pronounced Way Shen)

NORTH CHINA

THE SLEEPING GIANT OF THE EAST.

THE Emperor Napoleon said, "When China is moved, she will move the world." This is also the emphatic opinion of every one who knows China. For centuries the nations left China out of account when they were reckoning the world forces—the sleeping giant of the Far East might sleep forever, perhaps it was the sleep of death. To-day the nations are straining their eyes, for the giant has rolled over in its sleep and any moment may awake. As Christians we have only one question to answer: "When China does awake, shall it be as Christian or Pagan?" We have now the opportunity of setting the world's Redeemer before those slowly opening eyes, of putting in the new consciousness of the "Celestial Empire" the mind of Christ, of placing in those mighty hands the Word of God; then when the huge form arises it will be to stride



WEI-HSIEN CITY WALLS

in the fore-front of the Christian nations, using immeasurable strength for the good rather than the ill of the world. Christian Missions in China form the highest type of statesmanship earth has ever witnessed. Shall the ethics and the civilization of Christ or of Confucius dominate the East? That is by far the greatest alternative that ever confronted humanity.

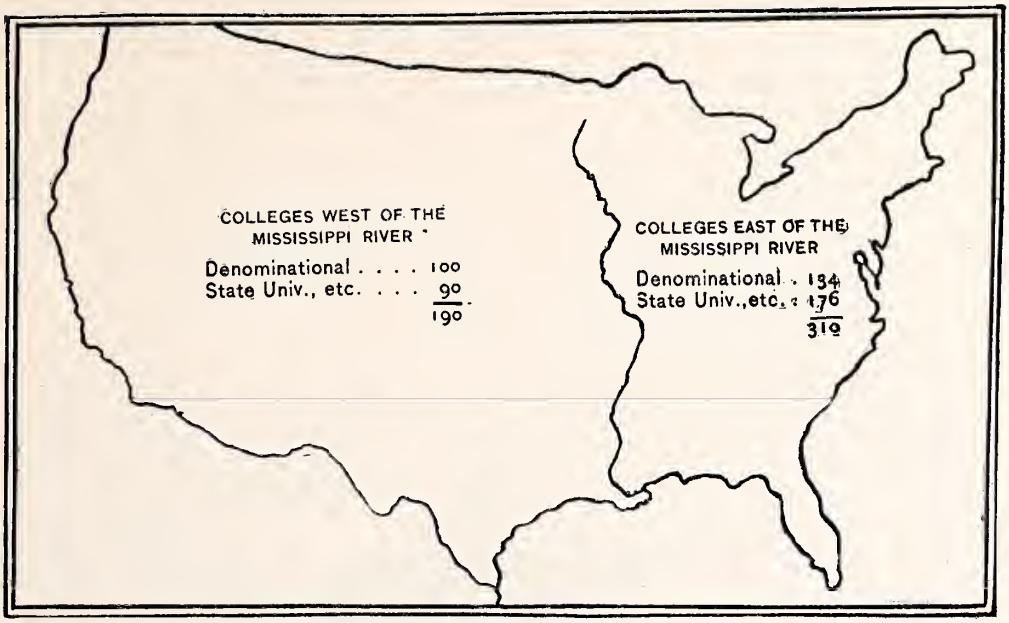
NOW OR NEVER!

WE must remember that the development of China was self-arrested. As the Empire decided centuries ago not to move any farther, so she has decided to-day to begin to move. Soldiers in modern uniform are marching along her roads; she has equipped a very creditable merchant marine; the old system of education, which concerned itself only in learning the Sacred Books of a remote past, has been swept away by edict; Imperial Commissions have gone forth to study the causes of progress in other lands; thousands of Chinese students are being supported in the Japanese Universities by the Chinese Government; and, the most recent of all of the signs of the times is an Imperial Board, appointed to seek means for suppressing the curse of opium smoking throughout the Empire. Never in the history of all ages has a country presented such a field for missionary endeavor, and those who have thought most and deepest upon the subject believe that it is, *now or never*—China for Christ to-day, or China pagan for all time.

THE FIELD.

THE Chinese Empire, with its population of three hundred and fifty millions, is divided into eighteen Provinces, a Province answering to one of our States within the Union. Each Province has a governor, aided by officers of districts, counties, and cities. We are chiefly concerned with the Shantung Province, in the North of China, containing 60,000 square miles, twenty-five per cent. more than our own Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Within the Province there are 35,000,000 people, nearly half as many as in the entire Republic of America. There are eight Presbyterian Mission Stations in the Province, but we are interested at present with the one situated at Wei-Hsien.

Wei-Hsien is a city of 200,000 inhabitants, at the center of the Province, the meeting place of the commercial and official highways, and destined to be the converging point of the railway system of the Province. The Wei-Hsien Station is responsible for educating and evangelizing four millions of people, approximately as many as in the entire State of Pennsylvania. That the work of the Station has not been futile is shown by the fact that at present there are fully 4000 Christians connected with the Mission. The Mission compound is situated to the south-east and within sight of the city wall. It consists of a tract of land about the size of a large city block, surrounded by a brick wall six feet high, with a large



Population U. S. 76,000,000, Colleges 500.

Population 35,000,000 (nearly half that of U. S.) One Christian College.

COLLEGE FACILITIES IN AMERICA AND SHANTUNG

imposing Chinese gate upon the north side. Within this enclosure are the homes of the missionaries and the various buildings connected with their work.

THE WORKERS.

(The dates refer to the year of going to China).

Rev. Calvin W. Mateer, D. D. (1863), and Mrs. Mateer (1875). Work: Bible translation and other literary work.

Mrs. M. M. Crossette (1870). Teaching in girls' school,

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WEI-HSIEN

charge of women's prayer meeting and of Bible-women, Bible-class work.

Rev. R. M. Mateer (1881) and Mrs. Mateer (1889). Mr. Mateer—itinerating, charge of fifty-three out-stations, charge of thirty-six boys' day-schools, pastor of Wei-Hsien church, Bible-classes, work on Mandarin Commentary on Hebrews. Mrs. R. M. Mateer—charge of Wei-Hsien Academy for girls, superintend-

ing girls' country boarding-schools, teaching women, charge of Bible-women.

Rev. Paul D. Bergen and Mrs. Bergen (1883). Dr. Bergen —President of Shantung Union College, in charge of department of Chinese language and literature, occasional itinerating, and literary work. Mrs. Bergen—work among women in city and country, evangelistic work in Women's Hospital.

Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Fitch (1889). Mr. Fitch—itinerating, in charge of forty-six out-stations, superintending girls' country boarding-schools, in charge of book-store and colporteurs, work on syllabary of Wei-Hsien dialect. Mrs. Fitch—teaching in Sunday-school, charge of Bible-women, Bible-class work.

Rev. H. W. and Mrs. Luce (1897). Mr. Luce—Registrar of the Shantung Union College, in charge of the department of mathematical sciences, of literary work, occasional itinerating.

Mr. Ralph C. Wells (1902)—Point Breeze Academy for boys, station treasurer, superintendent of Sunday-school.

Miss Margaret Franz (1902)—Itinerating, woman's work, Bible-classes, charge of girls' country schools and of Bible-women.

Dr. Margaret Hughes Bynon (1903)—Language study, charge of Women's Hospital and Dispensary.

Charles K. Roys, M. D., and Mrs. Roys (1904)—In charge of Men's Hospital and Dispensary.

Rev. Frank E. Field (1905)—Language study, secretary of station, itinerating.

Miss Grace D. Lynch (1906)—Charge of girls' school.

THE WORK.

EVANGELISTIC.

THE itinerating missionaries, both men and women, are constantly going forth in every direction on long journeys through innumerable cities and towns and villages, preaching to the Chinese, patiently teaching and examining applicants for baptism, encouraging the converts, inspiring them to personal work, guiding the labors of the native evangelists and Bible-women, and founding churches wherever a few converts can be gathered together. As they go, they supervise the little country schools already established, selecting the most promising boys and girls and sending them up to the higher schools at Wei-Hsien, hoping in due time that these may become teachers and workers and leaders in the Native Church. In the autumn when the harvest has been gathered in,

SHANTUNG STUDENTS' SUMMER CONFERENCE

selected men and women, sometimes to the number of three hundred, Christians and inquirers, will go to Wei-Hsien from these outlying towns and villages, and for several days, or even weeks, receive special instruction in the Bible and in the Gospel message. God has richly blessed all this work. It would almost seem as though the measure of results were only conditioned by the number of laborers we can place in the field. The number of new places to which the gospel is being preached is a characteristic feature of the past year. There is little or no opposition. Thousands are willing to listen to the message of the new religion. Scores and hundreds are eager to know more of it. Engaged in this work, besides the American missionaries, there are 138 loyal and enthusiastic native helpers, preaching and teaching regularly at no less than 145

GIRLS' SCHOOL, WEI-HSIEN

out-stations. During the past year 569 adults were baptized and added to the Church, and 760 catechumens were enrolled.

MEDICAL WORK.

DAILY the two physicians, with native assistants whom they have trained, spend many hours at the two hospitals, one for men and one for women, where they attend the in-patients and meet the dispensary cases. The value of this work cannot be exaggerated. Thousands, by skillful treatment, are delivered from

MATEER HOSPITAL AND PATIENTS, WEI-HSIEN

an unnecessarily early death, or from life-long suffering. The Chinese doctors are mainly fakirs, concocting most ridiculous medicines for diseases which they do not pretend to understand. Often in the dead of night our medical missionaries get into their sedan chairs, or mount their horses, and ride out into the darkness on some errand of mercy, in answer to urgent calls from out-lying towns and villages. Through such a life of tender self-sacrifice,

THE DISPENSARY

prejudice against the Gospel is being broken down and hearts are turning to the Christ who has sent forth men and women to heal the dread diseases of the body.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

FROM the various primary schools established throughout the districts the best students are sent to the boys' academy, known as the Point Breeze Academy, and to the girls' school, situated within the compound at Wei-Hsien. The great difficulty is to restrict the work to the limits of our equipment. Not only is the mind trained in both Oriental and Western learning, but living

for a long time under strong Christian influences, they come to understand the real meaning of the Gospel, as they could not if they were constantly surrounded by the numbing influences of hea-

THE OBSERVATORY, SHANTUNG COLLEGE

thenism. Later, many of the boys are permitted to go to the College, situated at Wei-Hsien.

Too much cannot be said about this Shantung College, one of the most conspicuous institutions in the Far East. In our own country, with a population of 75,000,000 people, we have more than 500 colleges; in the Shantung Province, with 35,000,000 people, there is only one college. Chinese young men by the thousands are desirous of possessing the learning of the West, and are willing to come to our schools and study our sciences, our

CHEMICAL LABORATORY, SHANTUNG COLLEGE

ethics, our Bible, for an extended period under daily Christian influence. Shantung Province has always been conspicuous for its love of scholarship. The two great sages of China, Confucius and

MAIN BUILDING, SHANTUNG COLLEGE

THE FACULTY OF SHANTUNG COLLEGE

Mencius, were born there, and from that Province National leaders are still going forth. One hundred and twenty-eight students were matriculated in the College last year, and in the past not one man has graduated from the College without being a disciple of Jesus Christ, although a profession of Christianity has never been a condition either of entrance or of graduation. The students have gone out not only into the Shantung Province but into many other provinces, as ministers, evangelists, teachers, government officials, or into commercial life. The great need of China to-day, and China's

CLASS OF 1906, SHANTUNG COLLEGE

hope of progress, depend upon the supply of educated leaders. Thousands of students, who are being sent by the Chinese Government to Japan (and there are more than 10,000 of these in Tokio alone), are receiving an education permeated with materialism. It is absolutely imperative that Christian Missions shall supply Christian education and guarantee the future of the nation by training Christian statesmen and officials. Shantung College is already one of the main elements in the development of Northern China. Mr. Robert E. Speer says, "That institution has led, and

leads still, the higher education of the whole Empire. For solidity of work, definite Christian results, and wide-reaching influence, no other institution in China can compare with it."

SOME OF THE FIRST-FRUITS.

REV. CHOU LI WEN,
(A Graduate of Shantung College.)

FOR some years a pastor over a group of churches in Central Shantung, a man of warm affections, earnest and able in his presentation of the Gospel message.

For many years he was intimately associated with Dr. Mateer in literary work. In literary attainments Mr. Chou stands first among the alumni of the College. He was Dr. Mateer's assistant and amanuensis in the preparation of a long series of scientific text-books now widely used in the Chinese Empire.

Our Shantung Mission Hymn-Book is to a good extent in Mr. Chou's language.

Two bulky volumes on the Mandarin language by Dr. Mateer were made possible through Mr. Chou's indefatigable co-operation. These books are considered the standard authority on the language.

In the great work of preparing a uniform translation of the Bible for all Mandarin-speaking China (two hundred and fifty millions of people) by a representative committee, of which Dr. Mateer is chairman, Mr. Chou, until his recent death, rendered invaluable service.

REV. TING LI MEI,
(A Graduate of Shantung College.)

HE is pastor of the Tsingtau congregation. His people built their own church and pay the entire salary of their pastor. Mr. Ting is unquestionably the most eloquent speaker in Shantung, possibly in North China.

He possesses, however, not only the gift of speech, but a warm, magnetic personality and a burning zeal, is fervent in prayer, earnest and patient in dealing with men, well versed in the Scripture, an evangelist of power.

During the Boxer troubles of 1900 he was beaten by a Mandarin in Laichoufu 250 blows on the bare thighs because he refused to deny his Lord or desert the Church—a type of man that is at once the strength and honor of the Chinese Church.

Rev. J. ASHLEY FITCH AND SON

MISS GRACE D. LYNCH

REV. H. W. LUCE

THREE OF OUR AMBASSADORS IN WEI-HSIEN

THE CHINAMAN.

CENTURIES of seclusion have clothed him with a reserve hard for Westerners to appreciate or penetrate, but beneath the reserve there beats a heart as noble and generous and loyal as any upon earth. He is loyal and steadfast, capable of making the most stupendous sacrifices for a cause or conviction, lovable and generous to a surprising degree, and a born thinker. When committed to Christ he makes a splendid Christian—tireless, resourceful, and devoted.

China holds the key to the future, The Chinese bear the same relationship to the Japanese as the Anglo-Saxons do to the Latin races of Europe, and their future ascendancy is inevitable. There is no spot on earth where Christian money invested will bring such immense returns as in China.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

THE Lackawanna Presbytery has assumed the support of the Wei-Hsien Station; henceforth we may consider it a part of our Presbytery situated in China. It is a bold plan born of prayer and faith and asking now only to be nurtured in fidelity In presenting this report to the members of our churches, our hope is that an intelligent interest may be created in their minds and a fervent love in their hearts for their brethren in the "Celestial Empire." We offer you a share in this splendid work, confident that not one cent of your money will be wasted and that every dollar subscribed will secure vast dividends in the cause of civilization and in the Kingdom of Christ. From time to time reports of the progress made in Wei-Hsien will be published by the Presbyterial Committee and distributed throughout the churches, that you may follow your prayers and gifts and know the results obtained.

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